

UNIT 376 E-NEWS



American Legion Auxiliary

Fort Hill ~ Unit 376
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From Jeanie Petersen, Membership-Treasurer-Publicity Chairman

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September 17, 2017 E-NEWS

Hi ALA Members,

We are psyched-up for the 2017-2018 year! A few of you have already paid your dues- KUDOS! Online works very well now so just drop me a message if you pay online.



President Jan Pollard and Vanessa Hadlock.

Our 1st Unit 376 meeting of the (fiscal) year was **Tues, Sept. 12, 2017**, at (new earlier time) 6:30 p.m. (2nd Tues of the month). We had our Empire Girls' State delegate, Vanessa Hadlock as guest speaker to tell us all about her experience. She sounded very impressed with the program, made some good friends, bought a bunch of t-shirts, and had a great time. President Jan presented Vanessa with a certificate and a Girls' State medal for proudly representing our Unit. She intends to major in Anthropology and Pre-Med, probably going to college in N. Carolina! She's an awesome young lady!

Printed minutes were handed out and approved. Standing Rules preliminary was handed out to be voted on next meeting. The 17-18 budget was approved.

Community Service: we voted to donate \$50 to the Riverview Cemetery Assn – to help with their cemetery upkeep.

Plans for the **Harvest Dinner** are currently being worked on. Date: Fri. Oct. 13th. Price: \$10 for adults, Seniors, or Take-Outs. \$6 for children 6-12 and under age 5 are still free. Food donations are being sought and some may donate money (if preferred) to cover cost of turkey breasts. Jan may have already called you. Frog Pond is donating 75 lbs. of potatoes!

Some discussion about the **Halloween Trick of Treating**, which Mickey Castaldy-Race is chairing. Candy donations are being asked for. We also talked about the **Christmas Community Baskets**, and there will be a box for non-perishable food for that as well. *'Tis the Season!!!*

Julie Blanford and Cindy (Hubschmitt) Newkirk are chairing the Luncheon for Vets' Home Volunteers which will be on Dec. 9th.

Decorating for Christmas – Jan will organize décor for the bar. Louise and Jeanie will set up the white tree with red, white and blue décor in the dining room on the last (Sun of Nov), Nov. 26, 11 am (after breakfast).

We unanimously agreed that after each Auxiliary function, held in the Post, we will donate 10% of our net profit to the Legion to help offset what it costs them. This will be added to our Standing Rules.

The 1st Chenango County ALA meeting was held on 9-11-17 and was attended by 20 members! (They had a great veggie lasagna and tossed salad for dinner.) The prayer mentioned two Auxiliary members who recently passed: Nancy Cushman and Pat Brownell.

The new 6th District President Vivian Brame-Gardner (Whitney Point) was guest speaker, attended by her 1st Vice, Janet Nelson (Marathon). Also from CC was Rhonda (?), Viv's 6th D. Historian and Angela Jones, her Chaplain (who's also the County



L-R: Janet Nelson, Sophie Liberatore, Viv Gardner, & Resi Fuller.



Vivian Brame-Gardner

Chaplain). She spoke about being Poppy Chairman, sharing the history, encouraging units to have poppy floats, make poppy cookies, have poster contests (a boy from Cortland won the last contest), and generally spreading the word. She's managing the poppies for all 62 counties! (*Thank you Debbie Benedict [of Sherburne] for taking pics for me with her phone.*)

I just emailed you info on the Dept. President Pat Hennessey's project "Our Military Kids".

Vivian's Vice Pres. Janet was promoting membership. She said to have a membership drive. She will personally donate \$5, not to the unit, but to the President's Project in their name, that gets 100% membership by the end of May. That got a few laughs! Vivian gave Janet praise for cleaning veteran's tombstones – racking up 372 hours!!!

The Legion booth at the Chenango County Fair made a profit for the first time - \$347.00!

The CCALA's Queen of Spades game, which raises money for the Veterans Thank You Luncheon, is up to \$227! No one won it. The 5th annual free to veterans Luncheon with speakers will be on Sunday, October 1st, 12-3 pm at the Frank H Arnold Post 348, 6 Academy St, New Berlin, NY 13411.

If you haven't heard, the **27 Pine Street Project** in Binghamton was developed as housing for ten (10) homeless veterans. Just opened Aug. 17th, the housing project is located one block from the U.S. Dept of Veterans Affairs health clinic at 203 Court St. Read more here: <http://www.binghamton-ny.gov/mayor-david-opens-10-unit-homeless-veterans-housing-project>

It was mentioned that the 2017-18 National American Legion Commander and the NYS AL Commander are both women – a big first! (Women will lead the world eventually.;-)



Meet the Legion's top state level officials- Department of NYS Commander Rena Nessler, State Auxiliary President Pat Hennessey, and State Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Detachment Cmdr William Clancy, III.

The next county meeting will be **Monday, Oct. 2nd**, 6:30 pm. Post #973 (Perry Cook), 618 Valley View Rd, South Otselic, [315-653-4481]. They asked that everyone bring (at least) one painted rock. Something that says/promotes the American Legion Auxiliary.

The **Dept. Commander's Visitation: Monday, October 23, 2017** - The Chenango County American Legion will host a joint visitation by the Legion's top state level officials- Department of New York State Commander, State Auxiliary President, and State Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Detachment Commander. That evening, Chenango County Commander, William H. Olsen will host a reception followed by a testimonial dinner. The dinner, starting with a cocktail hour at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m., will be held at the Lt. Warren E. Eaton, DSC American Legion Post 189, 29 Sheldon Street, Norwich, NY. \$18/dinner ticket. Pres. Jan has dinner tickets for sale.

The next meeting for our Unit 376 will be on (2nd Tuesday) **October 10th** at 6:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!!!

Jeanie

(Petersen)

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